

7 directional antenna for each multi-services switch to support point to point bi-directional
8 communication between base stations over a radio inter-cell link.

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The method as defined in claim 40 wherein each of said cells is sub-divided into multiple sectors and said multi-services switch is equipped with second radio interface cards for each sector, said second radio interface cards for wireless, bi-directional communication with network interface units (NIUs) within each sector.

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The method as defined in claim 41 wherein said network manager configures said radio interface cards with respect to operating frequencies, modulation rates, forward error correction values, and transmission power levels.

REMARKS

In the last Official Action of the parent application, numerous claims were said to be anticipated by Janky. Other claims were found to be obvious over Janky. Finally, some claims were found to be obvious over Janky in view of Takiyasu. As noted with appreciation, the previous indefiniteness rejections had been overcome.

By way of this Amendment, all of the prior claims have been cancelled such that the rejections are now moot. However, new Claims 24-42 are clearly patentable over the Janky and Takiyasu patents for the reasons below.

The present invention is directed to a system and method for making better use of a licensed allocation of broadband frequencies for use in an LMDS implementation. In the prior art and as discussed in the background portion of the present application, beginning at line 11 of page 2, communications between base stations by way of an intercell link were separate from communication from the base station to network interface units with the cell. Traditionally, the intercell link was by way of a hardwired connections. When a radio link was used, a separate frequency allocation was required for this link.

The present invention allows base stations to communicate over an intercell link using one of the frequencies allocated for base station to NIU communications. Because the intercell radio link simply applies one of the already licensed frequencies, it is easy to add links without having to obtain a separate license.

Neither Janky or Takiyasu suggests or teaches a radio intercell link between base

stations for communication of control information and user data. For example, in FIGS. 1 and 2 of Janky, communication is between base station repeaters and mobile unists, but not between base stations in neighboring cells.

Claim 24 recites, among other features, "a point to point inter-cell radio link for communicating with a base station in a neighboring cell," whereas independent Claim 32 has somewhat similar language. Independent Claim 40 recites: "providing a directional antenna for each multi-services switch to support point to point bi-directional communication between base stations over a radio inter-cell link." These features are patentable.

Those dependent claims not already discussed are patentable based upon the patentability of their parent claims and based upon numerous of the limitations appearing therein.

An early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

In the unlikely event that any issues remain unresolved following this amendment, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned in the hopes of expediting allowance of the application. Considering especially the long history of this prosecution including indications of allowable subject matter that were later withdrawn, the courtesy of a telephone call to attempt to expedite the approval would be most appreciated.

The amendment is being made to expedite allowance of the application. Unless expressly stated otherwise relative to one or more particular rejections, no concession is made or intended that any rejections were proper. Applicant reserves the right to later assert the patentability of any previous versions of the claims and any canceled claims.

Although no fee is believed due beyond any attached by check, permission is hereby granted to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1165 for any charges in connection with this paper or any extensions necessary with this paper.

Respectfully,

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Date

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